

A *

August 20, 1943.

Mr. C. E. McBride,
Sport Editor,
The Kansas City Star,
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Mac:

It just seems as if we don't get very far when we are around Lawrence, and I imagine the same obtains with you. These old men can really put out the work, can't they, Mac? I am speaking about you because that column of yours never fails in expressing your many contacts covering many areas in the United States. I remember Beels Becker so well. In fact, all of your writings of course are very familiar to me because when you were writing regularly for the Star on baseball dope I was conversant with all of the men.

When you started on the Kansas City Star back in 1904 I was playing on the K.C.A.S. team and then managed the team the next year, so all of our active years have been spent with practically the same acquaintances. I cannot realize that all those years have gone before. But as long as we are active we never stop to think how old we are.

We have a great set up here training all of these Army and Navy men, and we are experiencing a lot of pleasure in doing it.

I have nothing on my mind especially only that I have been having in my possession a clipping from the Journal-World regarding a game of golf that I played back somewhere in July. I notice in the column below that Patty Berg won a golf match on July 3rd, and it must have been about that time when I played this game with Dr. Jones, Irving Hill, Guy Smith, and so forth. Dr. Jones is the old University medic who played football in the early days. Of course you remember because he was a great friend of Bill Hamilton. He is a physician here in town and the father of Dr. Hiram Penfield Jones who operated on General McNair and Gallagher, the AP writer in North Africa. However, Dr. Jones is in very bad shape now at the University hospital with diabetes, Bright's disease and coronary heart, and we are afraid that he won't get out.

Irving Hill was quarterback on the early 1893 - '95 team at the University. He is president of the Lawrence National Bank and one of the outstanding citizens in town. Guy Smith is on the Athletic Board and professor of mathematics at the University. Mrs. Ravndal is Irving Hill's daughter.

We were out playing and I was dubbing along in my usual style, but this time I just started shooting them and they rolled in. Par is 34 here, so shooting 33 is something I had never done before and perhaps will never do it again. So I am sending you this mute testimony to let you know that I did play one good game of golf. However, I believe this one game spoiled me because I haven't been shooting anything like that since.

Yesterday Taft Talbot came down and we played 18 holes. Taft gave me a couple of strokes and we finished a tie without the two strokes he gave me, but Taft's game was off so I am not bragging about my golf game. However, I do enjoy playing as much as ever and wish that you played golf because I would try to find some excuse to get you and Helen here for a day's outing some Sunday. I know it is useless to ask you because you are about as busy as I am, but I may get to see you September 4th as I understand the Big Six directors are to meet about that time and they are asking the basketball coaches to come in for a schedule-making bee.

Gone are the times when we could sit back and relax and talk about old times or the things of the present. Anyhow, I want you to know that I often think of you and wish that we might have an opportunity to visit and spin yarns as we did of old, but we will do that when this fuss is over. We will win the war first.

Hope you are feeling fine and trust for all good health and happiness for you and yours.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

B

April 12, 1943.

Mr. C. E. McBride, Sports Editor,
The Kansas City Star,
Kansas City, Missouri.

Dear Mac:

Congratulations on your story in your Sporting Column regarding the Big Six Indoor Track Meet in Municipal Auditorium, supervised by Reaves Peters. I think you have something there, very definitely.

Since Horace Mason left Kansas the meet from the Big Six angle has had very little stimulus, and certainly it has never had good supervision. But with Reaves Peters handling it I am sure that he would do a great job of supervising it and I am sure that the gate receipts would double because he would see that the interesting angles concerning it were presented to the public, and that it would be reflected in the gate receipts.

This is my opinion of Reaves Peters' ability, but I would not want you to make mention of it in any way in the sports column because that would be one way to discourage it in the minds of the fathers of the Big Six, meaning the faculty representatives.

Now, I have something else in mind that I think is even bigger than the Big Six Track Meet, and that is a Christmas tournament of the Big Six basketball teams for next winter. I spoke to Harry Welsh about this matter when he and I conferred regarding Missouri playing in the hall. I asked him to see Dorman O'Leary and see if we couldn't get the faculty members of the Big Six conference to agree to such a ruling that the Big Six teams could play in Kansas City, either meeting other teams going through from coast to coast, or to play a tournament like this.

The Big Six conference is the only conference in the United States now that has a rule such as this. They only permit conference teams to schedule games with schools located in the same city. You will remember that Nebraska withdrew from the Missouri Valley Conference in 1919 because the conference would not permit Nebraska to schedule games in Omaha.

If Kansas and Missouri could schedule games with California, Stanford or some East or West teams, they could pack the building in double-header programs.

Now, better than that, Mac, if we could arrange with Lou Lower and Jimmy Nixon to bring the Big Six teams there for a week's play-off we would make enough money in one week to pay all the expenses of each Big Six team for the entire year and still have money in the bank.

Why can't you give ear to such a thing or even give print to such a thing, but do not connect me in any way with it. A schedule could be worked out that we would have double-headers each night. We might start during the vacation on Monday and Tuesday, or maybe later, and then drop off for a day of rest, and play Friday and Saturday, using either the percentage system in the reckoning of a paper champion. Our conference season does not start until after the first of January. This would do away with long, tiresome trips, and instead of taking the edge off the championship season it would stimulate it, and I will bet that the team that won the tournament championship would not win the regular conference championship.

Now, Mac, I am talking as if we are going to play ball next year. We may not play at all, and as far as I am concerned, I am fully prepared for no competition. But the wise ones think that there will be a little football, but it will not be possible to carry on a basketball schedule. You will remember the statement that I made three years ago. And I am still very much of that opinion regarding the abolition of big-time sport. But I do believe that we will recover our equilibrium sufficiently to carry on a heavy intramural program and perhaps we will have a few competitive teams that will emerge from this long and fatiguing struggle. We are just getting into this fuss now right up to our ears.

And by the way, of course we would have Reaves Peters direct it and it would be under conference leadership in that way. If you think any of these suggestions are good, use them, presenting them from any angle you wish, but do not mention my name in any connection, for I say again, the brothers might not like it so well.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

C *

March 12, 1945.

Mr. C. E. McBride,
Sports Editor,
The Kansas City Star,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mac:

Some time last week I noticed where some correspondent detected a sour note in my statement to the press prior to the Creighton game at Omaha.

Perhaps said correspondent did not know of my letter to Eddie Hickey as of February 27. I am enclosing this letter for your inspection. Of course, this correspondent could not know of this letter because I chose to offer to Eddie Hickey his choice of alternative.

I wrote to Hickey immediately as soon as I was informed by my boys of their desire not to play at Omaha. I could do nothing else.

I am not particularly desirous of learning the identity of the correspondent since I try to do the very best that I can as I see it. Long ago I have had to depend on my resources as they come to me. And if they are terribly faulty then I will just have to worry along without the intermittent admiration and support of my off-again-on-again friends.

Do you not agree with me when I state that it is rather a perplexing thing to me to understand why it is that many newspaper men who proclaim so loudly the virtues of freedom of the press utterly fail to agree with the individual in his right to freedom of speech?

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH
Enc.

P

March 1, 1943.

Mr. Bruce Drake,
Basketball Coach,
University of Oklahoma,
Norman, Oklahoma.

Dear Bruce:

I have obtained the address of the Kansas alumnus who was Chief of Police at Oklahoma City during the time of the hot car charge against Ug Roberts and Allie Paine, and I am writing him and trust to have the information very soon. I will send it to you at once.

This is in regard to our conversation of Saturday night following the altercation between Ug Roberts and Bill Brill. You will recall that Jack Copeland was in our car when we rode from Mount Oread down to the hotel. Jack Copeland told me at the Eldridge Hotel that he was in the car with the chief of police of Oklahoma City and me when we rode back from Norman and that he heard the chief tell me of the incident of having gone out to Allie Paine's and Ug Roberts' house about 1:30 or 2 o'clock in the morning and taking them down to the police station on this hot car charge.

I said to Jack, "Why in the world didn't you tell Bruce so that he would know that this chief of police really said it?" He said, "Well, I didn't want to get in it, but I did hear the chief of police tell about it."

If you have any doubt of this you can easily confirm it by talking with Jack Copeland, sports editor of the Wichita Beacon.

Ray Evans also tells me that Gerald Tucker was picked up on the same charge when he was playing in a high school tournament in Topeka during his senior year. Evans and Tucker were both in the state tournament at Topeka, and Evans is authority for the statement.

So much has been said about this and there has been a definite denial by the boys that I am going to give you a statement by the chief of police. You stated that you went down to the station and there was no record of the booking of these boys. All I was able to do was take the word of the chief of police as authoritative, but since there is some doubt as to this I will present the written document from this ex-chief of police of Oklahoma City.

I regret that this had to come up, but your boys have consistently ridden our boys, especially at Norman. The most ferocious riding started with Paine and Roberts, and followed with Tucker. I remember when my son,

Bobby Allen, was playing on the team they gave him one of the worst buggy-rides and tongue-lashings and mean insinuations that I know of. I could do nothing about it because it would have been misunderstood if it were my own son that I was fighting for, but I made up my mind that this cheap talk would cease after Bob had finished. I personally told the boys not to use this on any of the Oklahoma boys until the riding by the Oklahomans became unbearable. Then, I said, "If they keep after you with their taunts and mean insinuations, give 'em the works."

Oklahoma is the only team in the conference that consistently does this to their visitors. That is, so far as Kansas is concerned.

When Thompson was a sophomore at Nebraska he and one or two of the boys did some of it, but we do not experience it any place else. And I, for one, am emphatically opposed to cheap talk and goat-getting that consistently goes on from the Oklahoma players. It was most pernicious when Herb Scheffler was there and it hasn't abated any in these years. Tucker was one of the most prolific offenders.

I am writing you very frankly because I do not believe it belongs in intercollegiate basketball. If one of my boys start that kind of stuff I yank him out of the line-up.

I am sorry for this altercation and we endeavored to take our full share of responsibility along with Oklahoma in this unfortunate incident at Lawrence.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

The City of Oklahoma City
Oklahoma City, Okla.
March 5, 1945.

Dr. Forrest C. Allen,
Director of Physical Education,
University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Phog:

This is to answer your letter concerning our conversation on the way back from Norman in the winter of 1940 with reference to Allie Faine and Ug Roberts. As I remember, the facts in connection with that incident are substantially as follows:

Some time during the early part of the year 1939 or latter part of 1938, while I was Police Chief here, I was riding one night on a tour inspection with one Capt. Wallace Carel, who was then in command of the scout car division of the Police Department. As we were cruising over the City a radio call came out reporting an attempted high jacking of a drug store delivery boy and giving the tag number of the car in which the assailants were riding.

Capt. Carel and I went to Police Headquarters and checked on his tag number and found the address where it belonged. We went to this address, which as I recall was somewhere on West 2nd or 3rd Street, and learned that the car had been taken by a boy who was either a member of the family or lived at the same place as the owner of the car, but that the car been taken without permission. At his address we found a boy who admitted being in the vicinity of the supposed attempted high jacking with three or four other boys, but he denied any attempted high jacking. He gave us the names of the other boys who had been with him and stated that he had just left them at their respective homes a short time before.

One of the names which he gave us was that of Allie Faine with an address as I recall somewhere in the 100 block on East 5th Street. I did not know the Faine boy personally, but because of his being an outstanding athlete I did know who he was. I do not recall the name of Ug Roberts being in that picture, but it is possible he may have been one of the other boys involved. However, I do not recall his name in connection with this incident.

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Capt. Carel and I took this boy from the address on West 2nd Street and went to the address of the Paine boy and went in. We found the Paine boy and another boy in bed. As I recall these boys admitted riding around in the car, but denied any attempted high jacking.

We then took these boys to the address of another boy who was in the car and who lived in about the 600 block on North Robinson. We got all four of the boys together in the car and talked to them for quite a while and there was some question in our minds about the supposed high jacking. In as much as the car was not harmed and was returned to its owner and there was some close or family connection between the boy who took the car without permission and the owner of the same, we did not feel justified under the circumstances of arresting them for the theft of the car.

I remember that we then took the boys back to their respective homes and kept their names and addresses. Later follow up investigations were made by officers of the Detective Bureau and the result of these investigations no high jacking charges were filed.

It occurs to me that some where in the picture there was a suggestion that there was some altercation between the boys in the car and the drug store delivery boy, but there was no high jacking intended and it was the outgrowth of some past differences between the boys.

Inasmuch as no charges were filed and no arrests were made, there would be no record of this in the Police Department.

It is my opinion now and was then that the whole thing was merely a boyish prank and I believe that no useful purpose could be served by making this thing public.

Trusting that this information will be held confidential, I remain

Very truly yours,

Granville Scanland,
Ass't Municipal Counselor.

GS:EN

BASKETBALL IN THE OLYMPICS

Just before the Olympiad at Amsterdam, Holland, in 1928, the writer was named chairman of the Olympic Basketball Committee of the National Basketball Coaches Association, and also Chairman of the Olympic Basketball Rules Committee of the United States and Canada, and immediately began negotiations to gain recognition for basketball in the Olympics.

This appointment came in April, 1928, and the Amsterdam Olympiad opened in late June of the same year. Immediate circularization of the 66 various organizations holding memberships in the American Olympic Association for some demonstration of basketball at Amsterdam left no doubt in our minds that the hour was late for the inclusion of basketball in the sports at Amsterdam and that our requests for a place in this Olympiad would certainly be rejected.

If we gained any ground in this saunter, it was in knowing that the word "basketball" had re-echoed among the controlling powers. So we at once faced our artillery toward the home of the Xth Olympiad, Los Angeles, Calif., to be held in August, 1932, with the ultimate aim of having basketball included in the regular Olympic sports calendars of future years.

We received much encouragement from international figures in foreign lands, but after a four-year siege, owing to lack of support from the local Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee, we failed to get a demonstration of the sport at Los Angeles.

The local Los Angeles Olympic Committee chose to include a demonstration game of football between their own North and South Coast teams as the representative American sport for their Olympiad. This was perhaps a wise choice on the part of the Californians. Football, in the vast Olympic stadium with its 105,000 seating capacity and with California's own public definitely football-minded, facilitated the ticking of the turnstiles.

It may well be explained here that the local Olympic committee of any country chosen to be host to an Olympiad has the right to choose one national sport for demonstration at the games, and, after sounding out the majority minds of competing foreign countries, may add one foreign sport for demonstration sport at Olympic program. Lacrosse, which had been included as a demonstration sport at the IX Olympiad at Amsterdam, was again included at Los Angeles as the international demonstration sport.

It may well be explained here, too, that Olympic programs are always full, and it is next to impossible to carry out their scheduled programs within a fortnight. Basketball was only one of many as yet unrecognized sports in Olympic games that was clamoring for its place in the sun. In California, lawn tennis was among the first loves and yet had to be denied. Canoeing and rugby and handball and badminton and all kinds of shooting and billiards and many other American sports were pleading along with basketball to be recognized.

Scores of American basketball teams were anxious to participate. Mexico, Canada, the Philippines, and Japan wanted to send teams if the demonstration games could have been arranged at Los Angeles.

However, again we could not count our four years of effort lost. Ground had been gained. For four years the word 'basketball' had been appearing incessantly on the pages of correspondence and had been reverberating in the ears of the powers behind the Olympiad throne. These echoes were being heard round the world.

So we went to the X Olympiad at Los Angeles with our eyes on the XI Olympiad to be held in Berlin, in 1936.

At a dinner at that time with the Japanese Olympic Delegation in Los Angeles, Mr. Sohaku Pi of Waseda University, Tokyo, told us that annually in Japan they hold what they call the Far Eastern Olympics, which include basketball tournaments with China, Japan, the Philippines, and other Far Eastern countries competing for the championship of the Orient. Japan had won for three straight years.

While the writer was repeatedly enraptured with Mr. Sohaku Ri's recital of this basketball recreational romance of the Land of the Rising Sun, he was also being constantly reminded of the experiences of Mr. E. C. Quigley, public relations representative and umpire of the National Baseball League and outstanding all-sports official, who on a previous tour of Japan had officiated at a tournament for the Japanese. Mr. Quigley had related his experiences to the writer some years before. He had said that after starting the Japanese games in early evening and working until four o'clock in the morning, the only way that he could finish the tournament at all was to disqualify an entire team the first time any player on the team made a personal foul. Mr. Quigley had observed that basketball interest in Japan was definitely more intense than in the United States and that crowds numbering 10,000 attended these great tournaments. He felt that Japan had gone basketball as well as baseball mad.

Count Soyejima, president of the Japanese Basketball Association, Dr. Kishi, Mr. Shumpei, Mr. Suzuki, and other foreign representatives met with us at Mr. Sohaku Ri's dinner in Los Angeles with the definite intention of landing basketball in the Olympics at Tokyo in 1940, eight years hence, where we were certain that the XII Olympiad would be held, regardless of whether or not we could get it included on the Berlin calendar, four years hence, -1936.

Upon returning from Los Angeles inspired by international interest in our truly American sport of basketball, we took up serious correspondence on the subject with Herr Karl Diem of Berlin, the general secretary of the XI Olympiad, scheduled for 1936.

In the following summer, 1933, in Springfield, Mass., Y.M.C.A. College, where the writer was instructor in basketball, he made personal contacts with Herr Fritz Sieweke, of Berlin, and exchange student, who later went home to Berlin in the employment of the Hitler Youth Movement. Undoubtedly, Herr Sieweke aided in the promotion of basketball for the Berlin Olympic calendar.

In October of the following year, 1934, Herr Karl Diem wrote: "With further reference to our former correspondence, I have the pleasure of informing you that the Berlin Organizing Committee at its meeting on October 19th, adopted the resolution that basketball be included in the program of the 1936 Olympic Games at Berlin."

Thus briefly did the six-year struggle for the inclusion of basketball in Olympic calendars come to a happy ending. The Germans chose glider flying as their national demonstration sport for the Olympiad. Field handball, a game similar to basketball and played with a basketball but with different (soccer) goals, was chosen as the other (international) demonstration sport. Thus basketball was placed on the regular Olympic calendar. This achievement came to basketball sooner than we had dared to dream.

Some weeks later Herr Diem advised us an interview with Mr. Renato Jones, the secretary general of the International Basketball Federation from Rome, Italy, in which Mr. Jones spoke of the enthusiastic reception of this basketball news from various other parts of the world. At the time of this interview between Herr Diem of Berlin and Mr. Jones of Rome, in December, 1934, Mr. Jones enumerated the 22 nations that would send competing basketball teams to the Berlin Olympics. Out of these entries, listed two years before actual competition, all but one sent teams. Spain alone, owing to its serious internal strife, was forced to cancel plans for competition.

Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Latvia, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Rumania, Switzerland, and the United States, all sent basketball teams to the initial contests in the XI Olympiad at Berlin in 1936. The United States team won the championship; the Canadian team was second; and Mexico won third place.

However, the exhibitions, both in the local national preliminary elimination

contests and in the international competitions, proved that there is still much work to be done in erining out difficulties and mistakes of administration before the next Olympic games at Tokyo, in 1940.

The Olympic courts at Berlin were a combination of salt and sawdust which made a very firm surface in dry weather, but in wet weather they were a quagmire. It rained during the finals and made skillful play in the mud with a wet ball impossible.

The games were played under the rules of F.I.B.B. (International Federation of Basketball), which were, in reality, our national rules of 1934, without the 10-second rule or the 3-second rule. The F.I.B.B. rules permitted no player once removed to return to the game.

These first Olympic basketball games emphasized the differences in the physical make-up of the competitors from the various nations. The tallest man on the Philippine team was 5 ft. 11 in., and the tallest man on the American team was 6 ft. 9 in. This wide range of height among contestants brought out the fact that tall men were monopolizing the game and that the shorter races were greatly handicapped, not only in the center jump but in every department of the game.

So apperent was this difficulty that it was suggested by nations of shorter stature, Japan originating the suggestion, that there be two classes of competition in future Olympic basketball, the limited and the unlimited classes. The original intention of Japan in making this suggestion was to have the limited-division class include players under and not over 180 m. tall (approximately 5ft. 10 in.). Japan's hope in making this suggestion was to strive for skillful and technical development in play without being completely handicapped by lack of great stature. Japan felt that the emphasis that was being placed on great height was discouraging skill and technique and that by having two classes of competition no nations would be discriminated against.

In the unlimited class there will be no restrictions in height. These unlimited-class games should display races of giants, as they will be played largely by men above 6 ft. 3 in. tall.

The next Olympics will be held in Japan, a nation of men under 6 ft.; the men of the neighboring countries, China and the Philippines, are also of small stature. The only team at the Berlin Olympiad with extremely tall men was the United States.

The players from Canada, Egypt, France, Italy, Switzerland, and Turkey ranged from 5 ft. 10 in. to about 6 ft. 2 in. tall. These taller teams set their estimate of the height limit for the next Olympic games at 190 cm. (approximately 6 ft. 3 in.). Their plan was adopted for the next Olympic basketball competition and does exclude the extremes in height but does not quite meet the requirements of the Japanese and other nations of lesser stature.

The next Olympiad may be able to iron out some of these deeper wrinkles of discontent. However, the governing body of the National Collegiate Association of America has already voted to sponsor only four sports on the regular calendar of the next Olympiad, namely, track and field, rowing, wrestling, and swimming. It is therefore possible that no representative American college team will try out for Olympic basketball of the future and that only independent basketball teams will represent the United States in the next Olympic games.

Always basketball has followed closely in the wake of football, patterning its administration and methods sharply after the trail blazer. So with football having proved that lasting benefits could be derived from inter-sectional contests, basketball administrators have followed suit and are looking with increasing favor upon inter-sectional games.

Growing public interest, evidenced by greater attendance and coupled with larger seating facilities in field houses instead of in the inadequate gymnasiums of a past era, has so increased athletics treasuries that inter-sectional basketball contests are becoming more and more desirable.

However, in order to finance many intersectional tours, too many games must be played on too many successive nights for the teams on tour to have ample rest or educational enjoyment from the trip. It is to be hoped that continued growth of interest in these intersectional contests will bring about higher guaranties and fewer games for the traveling teams.

In no branch of athletics has the need for national coherence and game standardization been more pronounced than in the game of basketball. Different sections of the country emphasize various objectives of the game, often radically different both in interpretation and in administration.

In the farwest, guarding, especially guarding from the rear whether or not the man with the ball is touched, is called more closely than elsewhere. The Pacific Coast contingent, after serious laboratory experimentation, have advocated the elimination of the center jump. The National Coaches Association approved giving this plan a serious try.

In the Rocky Mountain section, the playing emphasis is on the offense. More or less chance-taking with the passing of the ball and plenty of action up and down the court bring high scores and victories to these mountaineers, when they are "right."

In the middle west, the larger conferences play well-balanced games. However, basketball diagnosticians hold that the mid-western game is too rough and that traveling and pivoting are too lightly limited. This conclusion is doubtless the direct result of the emphasis of this section upon a pressing man-for-man defense and a fast breaking offense.

It is the author's belief that the west and the middle west have been the pioneers in experimenting with changes in the rules and in accepting suggestions for the good of the game. The increased enjoyment and benefit to the players and the greater attractiveness of the game for the spectators should be the two high aims in the future development of the sport. However,

there are isolated cases of set points of view as to the administration and the playing of the game which still exist and which will perhaps be erased only by continued universal clarifications, interpretations, and uniformities in officiating, brought about by increased understanding through inter-sectional contests and the national comingling of coaches through their associations.

In some sections when rules are interpreted, often too much stress is laid upon the word "intent." As a result, when inter-sectional games are played there is frequently a confused and misunderstood administration of the games.

The National Association of Basketball Coaches, organized in 1928, has done much to amalgamate opinion upon the stabilization of the game and its rule interpretations and to obliterate sectional selfishnesses and other disturbing factors encountered in inter-sectional play.

This National Association of Basketball Coaches and the National Basketball Rules Body together furnish to transport adequate machinery for nationalism; and with a more complete elimination of such disturbing factors as incorrect lighting, goal posts on the end lines, improperly constructed playing courts, cement floors, and a few other of the antiquities of construction, as well as improper officiating administration, the game's national orientation will be completed.

8

January 20, 1943.

Mr. C. E. McBride,
Sports Editor,
The Kansas City Star,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mac:

I am passing on some material to you for what I think is a pretty good yarn, if and when you care to use it. Harold Keith, the clever newspaper man that he is, had quite a bit of sport regarding the Bruce Drake jinx on the Oklahoma floor the past five years at the expense of Kansas.

As a matter of fact, it was a four-year jinx because we beat them this year and we beat a fine sophomore team of Hugh McDermott's at Norman. This defeat knocked Oklahoma out of the championship. This was McDermott's famous "Boy Seat" team that burned up the boards in the conference. McNatt, Mesch, Snodgrass, Roop, et al. were the boys picked to win the Big Six championship in 1938. We beat them in a sizzler at Norman.

Then Bruce inherited the Boy Seats for 1939-40, and trying to beat that outfit at Norman was like endeavoring to put out a huge conflagration with a garden hose. However, we did beat Bruce Drake's Boy Seat seniors at Wichita, Kansas, in the Big Six N.C.A.A. play-off by a score of 45 to 39, after they had beaten us five days previously at Norman by 11 points.

The 1941 team was really Bruce Drake's first team and it was a dandy, with Ford, Heap, Paine, Rousey, Roberts, et al., and those boys played a valiant part.

I am sending you the personnel of these teams with this letter so that you can see what I mean. In 1942 he had Tucker. So really we were beaten by Drake's own team two years at Norman, and we beat Drake's team at Norman this year with "Manacles" McCurdy, Tucker, Roberts, Heap and the rest of the team. So while it looked like a five-year drouth, it was only four years, and when it looked like a four-year record it was only two so far as Bruce's coaching of his own teams is concerned.

And here's another angle, Mac. All the time we were whipping McDermott down there, Bruce Drake was his first line coach. So, in one way we were whipping Bruce and McDermott, and in the other way we got whipped four years by Drake.

Now this may not be any good, but I thought it was something, so I am sending it along. Anyhow, I have a lot of fun arguing.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

OKLAHOMA

1938: McNatt ✓
Seymour
Walker
Roop ✓
Mullen
Grayson
Martin ✓
Snodgrass
Mesch ✓
Kerr ✓
Denton

mid

1939: Mesch
McNatt
Corbin ✓
Bollinger
Zollner
Scheifler
Kerr
Ford ✓
Snodgrass
Roop
Mullen
Richards
Walker

Drake

1940: McNatt
Carlile
Ford
Speegle
Bentley
Mesch
Roop
Zollner
Scheifler
Bollinger
Richards
Taylor
Snodgrass

1941: Carlile
Corbin
Roberts
Richards
Lehman
Ford
Bentley
Heap
Paine
Rousey
Zollner
Martenev

1942: Roberts
Gray
Lehman
Reich
Heap
Rousey
Jones
Simon
McCurdy
Tucker

B

January 12, 1943.

Mr. C. E. McBride,
Sports Editor,
The Kansas City Star,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mac:

No, sirree, we can't let Irving T. Marsh, Nat Holman, Ed Kelleher and Joe Lapohiek get away with any such thing as that. I will write you a statement and you can use any part of it you wish, as if you interviewed me personally.

Yes, sir, the Oklahoma victory was a happy one, I assure you. You see, Bruce Drake inherited Hugh McDermott's sophomore "Boy Scout" team. Five years ago we beat Hugh's sophomore team in a great game at Norman, then Hugh stepped out of the picture and into physical education, and Bruce took over with these boys as juniors. They were practically an unbeatable outfit and we were pretty lucky, I thought, to whip them at Lawrence and to lost at Norman those two years.

Then Bruce started out on the hunt, competing with Hank Iba, for talent. So it is no wonder that we had trouble with the Oklahoma boys. They are a super outfit. So we whipped them twice at Norman in the last six years, which is not a bad record, I would say, for Oklahoma courts and Oklahoma crowds and Oklahoma teams. Of course, Bruce Drake helped Hugh McDermott for a great number of years, but Harold Keith is a very clever publicity man and a fine one, and a gentleman, by the way, and naturally he made the youngster, Bruce Drake, a mere boy whipping the old man, Phog Allen. The jinx and so forth was good while it lasted, but he will have to think up another angle for his story from now on because the jinx is being dispersed.

Lots of good luck to you, Mac, old fellow.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

I
November 2, 1942.

Mr. C. E. McBride,
Sports Editor,
The Kansas City Star,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mac:

It was good to have a visit with you and Helen Saturday. Wish that we might have had a longer time to visit.

I am happy that you printed the communication from Dr. Garfield Weed. I have every reason to believe that what Dr. Weed said is very true, because this summer Jack Gardner promised Charlie Black if he would join the Navy for the Gardner Air Base that he could guarantee him that he would not be called away from Gardner for the duration. Also, he promised Black, who is married, that after a few months he could have it arranged so Black could have his wife move over and they could live together.

This latter promise might be true but not even the President of the United States could promise a boy that he would not be moved for the duration. I wrote Jack Gardner and told him to stay off of Black and leave him alone as he was enrolled here and that we perhaps would have gumption enough to see that he enlisted in a reserve here while he is getting his college education. Jack wrote a pretty pertinent reply, which I expected from him.

I did not want to cause an officer of the U. S. Navy any embarrassment, but if I had wanted to press the case I certainly could have caused him plenty of trouble. When an officer makes a promise to an enlisted man in any arm of the services such as it is alleged Jack has been making, he far oversteps his bounds. And I was glad to see you give publicity to a very embarrassing situation that should not obtain in this time of strife. I do not want my name mentioned because I have openly criticized so many things, but Jack Gardner certainly has it coming in this case because I have the proof that he is still following his old proselyting tactics that he followed in college.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

August 13, 1943.

Miss Jean Reynolds,
Personnel Secretary,
U.S.O. Division, Y.M.C.A.,
600 Lexington Ave.,
New York.

Dear Miss Reynolds:

Answering your inquiry of the 10th instant regarding Miss Donis E. McDermond, I beg to state that I have just talked to her high school principal and he states that at this late date they would not be willing to release her under any condition at the present time. They are facing a serious shortage of teachers in the junior high school in which she is teaching. It would be impossible to replace her at this late date.

Miss McDermond is rather short of build but I would not say frail or slight of stature. She impresses one as being younger than her years. She is highly intelligent and capable, but she does lack the organizing ability so necessary in a job such as you require. Her immature appearance would not help her case when it came to working with business and industrial women. However, she is well trained and might do better than I could imagine.

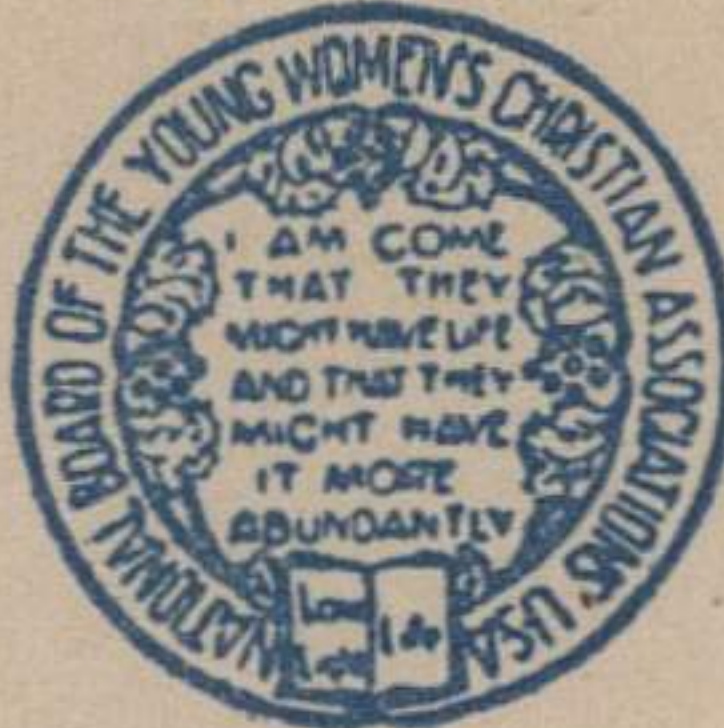
Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

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CABLE ADDRESS: EMISSARIUS, NEW YORK

August 10, 1943

Dr. Forrest Allen
Head of Physical Education Dept.
Kansas University
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

Miss Donis E. McDermond has given your name to us as a reference on her work and ability. She has applied for a position as a Director Assistant in one of our U.S.O. centers.

Our part in the defense program is to be of service to the thousands of women and girls in overcrowded communities adjacent to military camps or where defense industries have been newly established.

The Director of a U.S.O. center to provide this service must be a good organizer, a good group worker and good in her community relationships. She will need to be a person who can build a program quickly and direct the activities herself if necessary. Assistants to the Directors will carry special responsibilities for group work with business and industrial women or for health education or personal counseling or housing or for a recreational program for the men in camp and the girls of the locality.

Please give us any information you can on the applicant's personal qualifications for the position she is applying for as well as her demonstrated ability to carry our work. Does she have excellent health, endurance, and emotional balance?

Please state the reason for resignation if the applicant is in your employ and is resigning her position.

We are enclosing a blank for your use in replying to us.

Sincerely yours,

Jean Reynolds

Personnel Secretary
U.S.O. Division

Encl.

July 14, 1943.

Mr. A. J. McKinney,
Cabool, Missouri.

Dear Mr. McKinney:

Yes, I still have the 40 acres down at Cabool, but I would not care to trade it for city property. I believe you can see why it would necessitate my traveling to New Castle for upkeeps, repairs, and oversight, and that is always decidedly expensive.

I do not need the money especially, but I would sell the farm for a cash consideration or mortgage. Doubtless you can find somebody some time who would be interested in such a proposition.

No, I do not have the 40 rented and I would like for you, if you will, to see what proposition you can get for a rental. I would also authorize you to investigate as to what cattle are on it and see if you can not collect the rental or make some deal with the fellow who is using it. You can deduct your commission and send me the remainder. I would appreciate your writing me fully regarding the people who are now on it and how long they have been using it.

I will give you the power of attorney to make any arrangement with them on a settlement for past usage.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

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OF FORT SCOTT, KANSAS

A. J. McKINNEY
Agent

July 8th 1943

CABOOL, MISSOURI

Mr. Forest G. Allen,
Lawrence, Kans.

Dear Sir:

Have you still got your
40 acres down here. If so ~~you~~ would
you consider trading it for some city
property in New Castle, Neb. that would
rent good. If so let me hear from you
and I will give you the full description
of it. I have a party who was raised
here and wants to come back & someone
can make a good deal with him.

Have you got the 40 rented. I was by there
the other day & saw quite a heard of
Cacos on it. let me hear from you if interested

Sincerely
A. J. McKinney

June 23, 1943.

Mr. C. E. McBride,
Sports Editor,
The Kansas City Star,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mac:

I got a lot of enjoyment reading your Sporting Comment regarding Little Bill Miller. Last Sunday I read what I imagine Ernie Mehl had written about Little Bill on his "lack of tension" emphasis.

Last winter in the Satevepost I read quite an article telling what Little Bill was going to do for the Oklahoma Sooners. In the Post it showed the Oklahoma varsity basketball players going through the exercises and relaxation methods that Little Bill was teaching there. As a background in the field house were the athletic murals.

When I read this I was scared to death of Oklahoma. I thought Little Bill would sure give them a championship because they had Gerald Tucker and all the rest of the material to make Little Bill's theory work out. After the season was over I wondered how it happened that Little Bill didn't do the work with the Sooners, but I figured he just relaxed them too much.

Of course, when Little Bill had his Diamond D-X Oilers he had Chuck Hyatt and the rest of the gang that without relaxation could win a championship.

Now, understand I do not want to be sarcastic about Little Bill's theory of relaxation. I think every coach that has ever coached any sport has used this theory. But up springs Bill with an old idea as if it were a new thing. I have long used this in coaching my boys, "Pause for poise". I had a long conference with George Huff, the old Illinois baseball coach when I signed up in 1916. Mr. Huff was then coaching baseball and was athletic director. I said to him, "Mr. Huff, you have the greatest record of any college baseball coach in America. I would like to know your secret of success." "Well", he said, "you want to be sure to get a good catcher, a good pitcher, a good second baseman and a good center fielder. And then if you can teach the boys to relax they will make fewer errors and will get more hits."

As I say, every coach that I have talked to will tell you to keep your eye on the ball and relax. So I guess that Bill has got a new idea of telling the boys to relax, and then he mentions of course Joe Louis, Bill Tilden, Babe Ruth, Joe DiMaggio, and many others. And I might add Jack Dempsey and Gene Tunney. Any fellow who is a champion has learned to relax. If he did not he could not hit with his fists so

hard, or shoot a goal as accurately. Then he mentions DeBernardi. Dee was always relaxed all his life and that is why he was a great basketball player.

But what I am wondering is why Bill didn't do something with his Oklahoma Sooners because he had them under his control and there are photographs to show it. If Bill doesn't come through with the Cincinnati Reds I will wonder whether he is a good professor of relaxation or one who can reduce hyper-tensions at the right time.

I would not want to be quoted on this facetious statement, but I have a suspicion now that Little Bill Miller has been teaching this Kansas football team to relax the past ten years.

Mac, don't you let him relax my Kansas basketball team!

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

June 11, 1943.

Mr. C. E. McBride,
Sports Editor,
The Kansas City Star,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mac:

The eight weeks Summer Session for the University of Kansas opens here Monday and I was wondering if you would kindly run something on your sport page for Sunday's issue. I put in a call for you just before noon but learned that you would not be back until 2 o'clock this afternoon, so decided to talk to you Saturday morning.

I am going to offer a course in "Theory and Practice of Athletic Training", which is athletic injuries. The school opens Monday, June 14 and closes August 7. Henry Shenk, the football and track coach, will offer a refresher course for coaches who need some brushing up. So I wanted just a little notice for some of the boys over the country who might want to come in and take this athletic injuries course and the refresher course under Shenk. I will appreciate it very, very much. Not knowing who your correspondent is down here this summer I thought it would be easier to contact you.

Jane (Mrs. Elwood Mons) and her husband, Ensign Mons, are here visiting for five days. Bobby is in from the University of Pennsylvania where he will soon return to start on his senior year in medicine, and Eleanor is also with us. I have been hoping to get up and see you but haven't made the ripple yet. Bobby and Mit went up to see the Cardinals and Blues play but it looked so rainy I backed out.

Eleanor graduated June 2 from the University of Pennsylvania with an A. B. degree and is home now and will be here until her marriage in late September. I think Mrs. Allen told Mrs. MoB. that the young man is a Wharton School graduate at Pennsylvania and a law graduate. They will live in Lansdown, just outside of Philadelphia. Bobby will be here for one more week, and he and I have been playing golf every afternoon, even when it rained. Today is sunshiny and we are going to take advantage of it. I have been able to whip both Bob and Mit, but I am fearful of the outcome because these physical conditioning classes starting at 7:30 in the morning are too strenuous for the old man. This morning I took them out over the hills - both the 7:30 and the 8:30 class, and I am sure that my golf is going to suffer this afternoon because these hinges down about the knees are really crying out loud right now. But I am going to

make it because this getting up at 6 o'clock every morninr is really making a man out of me.

Some time when I get in town I will tell you about our very heavy physical conditioning program. We are really proud of what we have been able to do for the boys in the service.

Trust everybody is well at the McBride domicile. Thanks a million.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH
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Courses in "Theory and Practice of Athletic Training" and a refresher course will be offered by Dr. Forrest C. Allen and Henry Shenk at the University of Kansas eight weeks summer session which opens on June 14 and closes on August 2. Shenk is the new football and track coach at the University. Allen's course is open to graduate students and seniors. Some of Coach Allen's men out in the training field are Milton Kelley, of the University of Texas, Jimmy Cox, head trainer at Harvard, Lt. (jg) Roland Logan of the Chapel Hill, N. C., pre-flight school, Lt. (jg) Elwyn Dees of the Iowa City pre-flight school, and Dean Nesmith of the Olathe Air Base.

With so many of the coaches now in military service, these refresher courses are offered with a view of helping the men who are taking over new positions in the high schools.

#

Mae:

I don't know exactly what to write - just tried to fill in some space. If you can think of anything to make this look like something - not too much propaganda - please do so. Both Shenk and I are handling physical conditioning courses for the Naval engineers, the Navy fliers, and the students who are enrolled in some branch of the service here at the University. With this new semester, I will be starting my 27th year at the University of Kansas.

F.C.A.